THE CASE OF THE

Victuallers *and others, Retailers of* Ale *and* Beer *within the Cities of* London *and* Weſtminſter, *and Parts adjacent.*

BRITISH MUSEUM

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BY an Act paſſed in the 12th Year of the Reign of his late Majeſty King *George*, a Duty was laid on all Retailers of Ale and Beer within the Cities of *London* and *Weſtminſter*, and Parts adjacent.

THAT in Conſideration of ſuch Duty, and (as 'tis preſumed) to make them ſome Amends, in regard to the Loſſes they often met with in ſending out Drink in their own Pots or Veſſels, and not having the ſame return'd again; It is therein Enacted, That ſuch Victuallers and Retailers ſhould not ſend out Beer or Ale in Pots or Veſſels of their own, in leſs Quantities than a Gallon.

THAT ſuch Reſtriction, inſtead of being of any Advantage to them, proves a great Detriment to moſt Part of the Victuallers and Retailers, eſpecially thoſe who dwell among the poor working People, Thouſands of whom work daily from their Habitations, and others have not Pots or Veſſels to fetch Drink they may have occaſion for; ſo that the ſaid Victuallers and Retailers Trade is thereby greatly leſſened; and great Numbers of Retailers of Ale and Beer live in the Fields, and were never accuſtomed to lend any Pots, ſo could never reap any ſuppoſed Benefit intended by the Act, yet are charged with the Duty.

THAT by Reaſon thereof, and of the large Quantity of *Geneva*, and other ſpirituous Liquors of late Years ſo much drank, the Conſumption of Ale and Beer is conſiderably leſſen'd; and 'tis humbly conceived there is more loſt by the Duty of Exciſe, than the Money that has, or can be advanced by the ſaid Act, will ever raiſe.

THAT by Reaſon of the high Rates the Commiſſioners of Exciſe have laid on moſt Part of the ſaid Victuallers and Retailers, as Three, Four, Five, and Six Pounds *per Ann.* (when at the ſame time their Draught of Beer and Ale is not ſufficient to maintain them) they are very much reduced, and under great Difficulties to ſupport themſelves and Families, and the ſame muſt end in the Ruin of thouſands, if not ſpeedily relieved.

WHEREFORE, for that ſuch Duty is of no Service (but a Loſs) to the Publick, and tends to the utter Ruin of ſo many Families;

It is humbly prayed, the ſaid Victuallers and Retailers may be relieved, in ſuch manner, as the Honourable Houſe of Commons ſhall think fit.